



*Master Sgt. Sophia Didley, 175th Medical Group, Maryland Air National Guard examines a patient while in Bosnia.*

## The Forgotten Front

Story and photos by Spc. Loni Kingston, 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

It has been 11 years since the leaders of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia signed a cease-fire agreement that halted the war in Bosnia. But the damage was done. More than 200,000 people perished during the conflict. The war was devastating and the scars are visible to this day.

According to Lt. Col. Phillip "Randy" Brown, the commander of the 175th Medical Group (175th Med. Grp.), Maryland Air National Guard, the economy took a huge hit after the war. Fifty percent of the population are without jobs. The people of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) are under resourced, they

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Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.  
Governor



Michael S. Steele  
Lt. Governor



**Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.**  
Governor

**Michael S. Steele**  
Lt. Governor

**Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill**  
Adjutant General

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT:

Autumn is now upon us and this continues to be a very busy time for the Department both here at home and abroad. The Department continues to perform its dual high tempo federal and state missions unabated. During the summer, the Department supported President Bush's Border Initiative by sending members of the Maryland National Guard to Arizona and New Mexico as part of Operation Jump Start.

When the Israeli-Lebanese conflict broke out, the U.S. Government made arrangements to repatriate stranded American citizens from Lebanon. Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport was selected as the port of entry. Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., directed the implementation of the State's Repatriation Plan at the request of the U.S. Government. The Maryland Emergency Management Agency coordinated the efforts of other state departments and agencies to assist with lodging, communications, food, medical and transportation. More than 5,000 Americans came through the airport and were greeted and assisted by state, local and non-government services to their final destinations. Members of the Maryland National Guard volunteered to assist those returning. I salute all members of the Department who participated in this noble event.

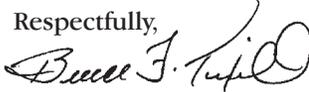
The humanitarian medical mission to Bosnia-Herzegovina undertaken in July by the 175th Medical Group of the Maryland Air National Guard and health care professionals from the Maryland Defense Force was a rousing success. Working in two-week increments, the teams provided medical treatment to Bosnian citizens living in remote areas. Many of the people who came for help had never seen or been treated by a health care professional. At the conclusion of the mission, the team saw and cared for approximately 2,083 patients in 17 villages. This was the first instance of the MDDF being mobilized and deployed for a mission outside of the United States.

BG (MD) Fred Smalkin is stepping down as commander of the MDDF. The torch has been passed to newly promoted BG (MD) Courtney Wilson. General Smalkin oversaw many of the dynamic changes within MDDF and saw elements of his organization deploy outside of Maryland to the Gulf Coast in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. This deployment was historic, as was the deployment of 10th Medical Regiment Teams to Bosnia. Fred's dedication and resourcefulness on behalf of his command were outstanding and will be missed. General Wilson, who was the former MDDF Chief of Staff, is uniquely suited for this command. He has a tough act to follow, but I have complete confidence in his ability to successfully lead the MDDF.

Hurricane season for the Mid-Atlantic states does not end until 1 December. While we have not been directly impacted this year, we are still vulnerable to other severe weather phenomena. Hurricanes and tropical storms that strike other areas of the country can affect our weather patterns and can spawn floods and tornadoes. The Ehrlich-Steele Administration has inaugurated a statewide emergency preparedness campaign called Family First. The purpose of this program is to help our citizens prepare for the next emergency or disaster. MEMA is one of the main participants in this important effort and you will see more information as the campaign progresses. There is information in this issue, which will be useful in helping you to prepare.

I had the opportunity to visit BG Leacock and more than 260 Maryland Army National Guard Soldiers serving our country as part of the task force guarding the detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. They are doing a fantastic job. Please continue to include them in your thoughts and prayers for a successful mission and safe return.

Schools are now back in session. This requires additional caution when driving to avoid accidents causing injuries and deaths. October also is Fire Prevention Month and members of the Department need to take all precautions to protect themselves and their loved ones. Vacation season is over and we are engaged on many different fronts, keep up your good work and we will continue to succeed. Godspeed.

Respectfully,  
  
Bruce F. Tuxill  
Major General, MDANG  
The Adjutant General

# The Forgotten Front

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*Col. (Md.) Robert A. Barish (right) of the MDDF confers with a Bosnian doctor while treating a local citizen.*

don't have access to medical care; at least not to the level they should, explained Brown.

In July the 175th Medical Group spent a month in BiH, a country partnered with Maryland in the National Guard's State Partnership Program. While in the Balkan country unit members administered basic aid to local villages as part of their annual training.

The humanitarian effort was a joint effort that combined members of the Maryland Air National Guard and Maryland Defense Force (MDDF) with Bosnian soldiers and translators. It was the first mission of its kind. And it was the first time the MDDF deployed overseas.

Approximately 80 members of the Maryland Military Department ventured to BiH as part of a humanitarian relief mission. Among the group were dentists, optometrists, physicians, physicians' assistants, medics and nurses, many of whom perform their job on the civilian side as well.

Most of these people do their job on a daily basis and are good at their job on the civilian side, according to Brown.

The mission gave the troops an opportunity to do something different than the normal annual training, said Master Sgt. John Wissman, acting first sergeant of the 175th Med. Grp.

Preparation for this mission was extensive.

"We embarked upon two site surveys, worked with local non-government organizations, with the local embassy and officials from Eagle Base, Tuzla.

[We] went out and selected sites, we went to each area and selected schools and/or community centers to set up the medical mission," said Lt. Col. Steven Benden, commander of the 175th Security Forces Squadron, Maryland Air National Guard.

A reconnaissance team was sent to BiH a week before the first medical teams to make sure the sites were ready, said Senior Master Sgt. Steve Bloodsworth, senior health technician for the 175th Med. Grp.

"Flyers and radio announcements were made to inform the Bosnians of the mission," said Bloodsworth.

"United States Air Forces in Europe

provided \$70,000 that was utilized for medication."

Each day the group would travel to individual villages and set up a makeshift clinic, making due with what was available to them.

Triage was the first stop for incoming patients. Interpreters were present to help patients fill out paperwork that described the patients' medical issues. Once they were finished with their "in-processing" they were sent to the appropriate clinic: dental, optometry, general practice or urgent care. In many instances, patients were seen at more than one clinic.

Each clinic saw its fair share of patients with their fare share of problems.

"Small children have rampant decay; a lot of adults are already missing many of their teeth," said Lt. Col. Rita Kurek, a dentist with the 175th Med. Grp.

"My job is to provide basic dental care, help them understand what is causing their decay and teach them preventative measures," said Kurek.

Medical laboratory technician, Staff Sgt. Robert Davis of the 175th Med. Grp. said that the major medical

issues that he saw were diabetes and urinary tract infections.

The medical laboratory technicians provided chemistry testing to further assess the patients' conditions.

Once they have been treated they either went to the pharmacy for medication or out-processed.

People walked for miles to reach the clinic; in some instances they walked all day to receive medical care.

"There is practically no health care available," said Semsudin Mujic, president of the village of Luka.

On an average day medics saw approximately 200 people.

"It's a drop in a bucket, but it's a drop," said Brown. "It's a step in the right direction. You have to start somewhere."

"If we help one man, we help the whole world," said Adem Ustrlic, municipality representative, Bonovici, BiH.

The fulfillment these service members have gained during this mission is immeasurable, said Brown.

"Seeing the faces of those people who have received care is totally rewarding," said Wissman.

"I think we all want purpose in life and this is definitely a purpose," said Brown.

The mission was meant to accomplish two things; provide Airmen with training and to provide medical relief to those in need.

"We are here to train and to make ourselves better medics, but sometimes I think making yourself better can actually help others and that's why we are here," said Brown.



*Tech. Sgt. Rachele Jones, 175th Medical Group, helps a patient relax during her visit to a clinic.*

# Unity Day a Success!

After a year of hard work and planning Maryland National Guard Unity Day took place on September 14.

A first for Maryland, Unity Day offered members of the Maryland Military Department the opportunity to get together and learn about many other cultures at once and in one place.

In the past different cultures and topics would be represented during MDNG sponsored lunches that would take place during specific months of the year.

"We spent so much time on these [monthly lunches]. It was like planning five weddings a year," said Lt. Col. Jan Burke, MDNG state equal employment manager. Burke directed the planning and execution of Unity Day. Burke concedes the idea to consolidate the individual events into a single large event was not her own.

"We got the idea from my SEEM [state equal employment manager] counterpart in New Jersey," said Burke.



*Fifth Regiment Armory drill floor during Unity Day.*



*Plastic sheeting - \$1, Pie pan - \$.50, Whipped cream - \$1.20, Hitting your boss in the face with a pie - Priceless*

*Brig. Gen. Charles A. Morgan III, assistant adjutant general for air, takes one for the team as Brig. Gen. Guy M. Walsh, MDANG 175th wing commander, puts "whipped cream on target" during Unity Day activities.*

Burke then presented her chain of command with the single event idea and they bought off on it.

Burke and members of the Unity Day committee made trips in June 2005 and 2006 to the New Jersey National Guard's Unity Day in order to get ideas that would help them plan Maryland's.

Planning was not without its obstacles said Burke. Issues such as where and when were some of the big challenges. According to Burke the Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore was chosen because of its centralized location, large drill floor and the fact that a large amount of employees worked there. September was decided on because it would give the committee the time they needed to plan and it would be far enough out of the summer annual training period. Other obstacles, such as finding parking for the expected 400 plus attendees crept up during the year. However, these were more easily overcome than one might expect, according to standing committee member Dave Glenn, Mary-

land Military Department professional development and educational training officer.

"I went downtown and talked to the Baltimore Parking Authority about parking for the event," said Glenn. "The City kept its promise and marked off 200 spaces."

More than 400 people attended the event which celebrated the significant contributions from such diverse groups as African Americans, Federal Women, Asian Pacific Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans and Disabled Americans. The event also featured food, artifacts, information and entertainment representing the different groups.

Also in attendance was keynote speaker Kristen Cox, secretary of the Maryland Department of Disabilities as well as more than 80 Freestate Challenge Cadets who helped set-up and run the event.

Burke credits the success of the event to her committee and volunteers. "I have an incredibly motivated and creative committee," she said. "I'm amazed at the positive energy exuded by the standing committee and volunteers."

Plans are already underway for next years Unity Day. If you'd like to volunteer contact Lt. Col. Jan Burke at 410-576-6045.

# Chinook Rollout

Maj. Michael Krause  
Executive Officer, 1-224<sup>th</sup> Aviation  
Security and Support Battalion

The wind wasn't the only thing blowing hard last week at the Boeing Plant in Ridley Park, Pa. On a sunny but blustery day in Philadelphia, a CH-47D Chinook helicopter and her crew from the Maryland Army National Guard took center stage. The aircraft, crewed by Chief Warrant Officer 4 Sam Thomas, Capt. David Magness, Staff Sgt. Jeffery Potter, and Staff Sgt. Gene Dalporto, made a full traffic pattern over a crowd of nearly 1,000 Soldiers, guests and Boeing employees before executing a perfect landing to a hover and dropping off its Humvee cargo on the intended target. The Chinook had carried the Humvee from its base in Edgewood, Md. that morning, suspended externally by its three powerful cargo hooks underneath the belly of the aircraft. After shutdown, the helicopter was moved to its display position, beside its future replacement, the CH-47F Chinook model.

The CH-47F model rollout ceremony that took place in Philadelphia marked the upgrade of the Army's premier heavy-lift helicopter, the CH-47 Chinook. The Chinook is the fastest helicopter in the Army's inventory, and can carry loads equal to its own empty weight, either internally or externally. The "F" model, features better avionics, moving map navigational technology, and a stronger

airframe that's easier to maintain than its older "D" model counterpart. With its vast capability - first realized more than 40 years ago with the first "A" model during the Vietnam era - and its historic track record, the Army has decided to extend the life of the Chinook program well into the 21st century with its newest upgrade - the "F" model. For the next 20-30 years, "F" model Chinooks will dominate the skies of the future battlefield as they have since the early 1960's.

"It's about protecting human life," said U.S. Congressman Curt Weldon (R-Pa.). "It's imperative that our Soldiers have the very best equipment that our nation can provide them, and you great Americans here at Boeing have done just that today!"

The juxtaposition could not have been more striking, seeing the two behemoth aircraft side by side - the F model, scheduled for fielding during the summer to the Army's 101st Airborne Division, next to the D model from Maryland's National Guard. But it was Maryland's Chinook that stole the show, having performed masterfully earlier that morning. Following the cere-



*A Maryland Army National Guard Chinook carries a Maryland Army National Guard Humvee prior to the CH-47F rollout ceremony.*

mony, crowds gathered at each aircraft, and were treated to a thorough walk-thru by the expert crew members on board. It was an important milestone in Army aviation, and a job well done by all involved.

## MDDF Establishes Engineer Corps

1st Lt. (Md.) Michael Nolan, MDDF

The Maryland Defense Force (MDDF), one of the four pillars of the Maryland Military Department, has recently established an engineering directorate. The new MDDF Engineer Corps is a welcomed and necessary addition to the well-trained and established finance, legal, chaplain, and medical directorates; and furthers the goal of adding additional areas of expertise in expanded and newly established mission support units, as laid out in the agency's five-year plan. The new Engineer Corps mission area was formally established in April and has adopted the vision of maintaining a capable and mobilization-ready unit to respond to state or local emergencies

requiring engineering expertise, such as disaster evaluation and recovery. The unit also will provide ongoing professional engineering support to the Maryland National Guard.

"I'm excited the MDDF Engineer Corps will be here to provide service to Maryland," said Col. (Md.) Brian Kelm, MDDF Engineer Corps commander. "We will work hard to recruit well-qualified and highly motivated personnel into the Corps." Kelm is a retired U.S. Navy captain who served 26 years in the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps and also is a professional engineer, licensed to practice in Maryland.

Retired active duty or Guard personnel with construction and engineering experience are needed, so if you are interested or know somebody who is motivated and qualified to serve or continue to serve the State of Maryland and the Maryland Military Department, please e-mail Col. (Md.) Kelm at: [bkelm@mddf.us](mailto:bkelm@mddf.us). The MDDF Engineer Corps expects to be staffed and providing high quality engineering support by fall of this year, fulfilling its ultimate mission as defined by the MDDF motto "*Officio Vocante Parati*", "Ready When Called".

# Marriage Enrichment Retreat

The stresses of everyday military life can put a lot of strain on a marriage. Add a deployment or two and even the best of marriages can be tested.

For this reason the Department of the Army has directed that marriage enrichment programs be offered to service members.

"You don't wait for your car to break-down before you get the oil changed," said Chap. (Col.) Sean Lee, Joint Forces Headquarters chaplain.

Four Maryland National Guard (MDNG) sponsored Marriage Enrichment Retreats have taken place since the program began in September 2005.

Lee explained that a common misconception about the retreats is that they are counseling or therapy oriented when in fact they are focused on marriage enhancement.

"This is about maintenance," said Lee.

The retreats utilize the Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP) which was developed by the University of Denver after tracking married couples over a 20 year period. PREP is a skills and principles-building curriculum designed to help partners say what they need to say, get to the heart of problems, and increase their connection with each other. According to Lee PREP is the marriage program mandated by the Department of the Army.

"This is the only empirically based enhancement program out there," said Lee.

Sponsored by the MDNG Family Readiness Group, and administered by the MDNG Chaplain's Office the week-end-long retreats offer instruction on ways to improve marital relationships,



*Chap. (Capt.) Evan Young, Maryland Air National Guard, smiles with nothing but happy couples at the Family Readiness Marriage Enrichment Retreat held in August at the Holiday Inn, Timonium, Md.*

cope with separation and promote successful reunification.

"It makes you aware of a better way of dealing with your problems and helps to open communication," said Maj. Lance Newby, assistant to the chief of staff of the Maryland Army National Guard. Newby and his wife attended a retreat in August. Newby explained that the skills learned at the retreat can be put into practice outside of marriage as well. "You can apply what you learn with your spouse to other relationships, like the people at work," he said.

Couples also are offered the option

of renewing their vows during a non-denominational service during the weekend.

The retreats, which can accommodate 10 to 12 couples, are open to all military services however Maryland National Guard members have priority. There is a small fee for attendance that covers snacks and beverages during breaks however the fee can be recouped with a travel voucher following the weekend. Retreats are currently being planned for 2007. Contact your unit's lead family volunteer or the Family Readiness Office for more information.

## USPFO Receives Veteran's Affairs Award

The United States Property and Fiscal Office (USPFO) for Maryland, located in Havre de Grace, recently received the Department of Veteran's Affairs Federal Achievement Award.

The award was received for the monetary amount of contracts the USPFO Contracting Office awarded to service-disabled veteran owned small businesses (SDVOSB) during Fiscal

Year 2005. The contracting office awarded more than \$561 million in contracts to SDVOSBs during FY 2005. National Guard Bureau sets a SDVOSB contracting goal of 3 percent of a state's total contracting. Maryland exceeded that goal threefold, with a total of 9.4 percent spent on service-disabled veteran businesses. This high percentage put Maryland third in this

category out of all 54 states, territories, and the District of Columbia.

The award was presented to the USPFO at the Champion of Veterans Enterprise Fifth Annual Awards Ceremony on June 28, 2006. This marked the first time the USPFO won this award.

# Border Mission

By 1st Lt. Wayde Minami, 175th Wing Public Affairs



*The sun sets as Spec. Donald Neuer (left) and Staff Sgt. William Young, both members of the Maryland Army National Guard, monitor the U.S.-Mexican border.*

It's a place where the sun-bleached bones of horses, cattle, and occasionally humans can be found amongst the sand, scrub grass and mesquite and the early September temperatures can still soar to more than 100 degrees in the daytime.

It's a place where illegal immigrants, drug traffickers, and possibly terrorists routinely attempt to covertly enter the United States.

It's a place where 103 members of the Maryland Army National Guard spent two months serving as the eyes and ears of the U.S. Border Patrol.

From Aug. 1 to Sept. 25, 2006, volunteers from the 1st Squadron, 158th Cavalry and the 1st Battalion, 175th Infantry were deployed to the Tucson Border Patrol Sector in support of Operation Jump Start, the National Guard effort to help secure the southwest border.

"The Border Patrol sees an incredible number of people coming across and they don't have the personnel," Capt. Brian Perez, the troop commander, said. "Us being down here allows them to be in more places and do their job better."

Employed as four-man "Entry Identification Teams," the Soldiers manned isolated observation posts within the Tohono O'Odham Indian Nation, which straddles the U.S./Mexican border southwest of Tucson, Ariz.

Working in 24-hour shifts, the Soldiers scanned the desert with binoculars, night vision goggles, and thermal sensors.

"It's hot, it's isolated, and they get occasional monsoons that come in and soak everything pretty good," Perez said. "But it's a 24-hour shift, so it's manageable."

When they spot a suspicious vehicle or group of people, they call the sighting in to a nearby Border Patrol agent and vector the agent – who may be on horseback, in a vehicle, or in a helicopter – to the target.

According to Perez, the Maryland unit reported more than 430 sightings to the Border Patrol in its first month on the

line, with more than 250 apprehensions resulting.

Because the Guardsmen are deployed within a sovereign nation, they've had to be especially mindful of the sensitivities of local leaders.

"We've met twice with the tribal council leaders," Perez said. "[We've] taken them out and showed them what we're doing."

In addition, the Marylanders have been mindful of protecting the land itself.

An ecologist and an archeologist visited each EIT site to check for sensitive flora, fauna and archeological remains that the Guardsmen should avoid, Perez said.

Perez says that the local population has been very supportive of the Guard's efforts.

"We get a lot of waves and smiles from the kids," he said.



*Staff Sgt. William Young (right) reports to Capt. Brian Perez, both members of the Maryland Army National Guard, on Aug. 24, 2006, describing suspected illegal immigrants spotted by Young's team the previous day.*

# NFL Offering Free SAT/ACT Programs to Military Families

Thanks to the football players represented by the Victory Sports Group (VSG), the \$199 SAT or ACT Power Prep Multi-media CD/DVD (New) Programs are now available for just shipping and handling.

The VSG athletes as a group have sponsored all military personnel (active and inactive or retired) beginning September 1, 2005. The VSG sponsorship includes all armed forces families, active or retired in the U.S. Air force, U.S. Army, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Marines Corps, U.S. Navy, all branches of the Reserves, and National Guard units in every state.

Through the VSG sponsorship, military personnel can obtain eKnowledge's \$199 SAT or ACT Standard Power Prep program(s) and the \$199 is waived. Families that request the program(s) pay only shipping, handling, and materials costs associated with the request.

**The sponsorship will last through the entire 2005-07 school years, which will end July 1, 2007.** The pro-

grams that have been sponsored by VSG will time-out and not function one-year after the program's request. The family may use the program for an entire year even if the program is requested the last day of the sponsorship.

## About The SAT/ACT Power Prep DVD/CD-ROM Programs

The SAT & ACT test prep training programs come in either a single DVD or two CD-ROM sets and includes more than eleven hours of training video and 25-40 hours of student participation. Students can use the program as a stand-alone complete course or as a supplement to other SAT & ACT prep materials. The students can select the training they most need and study at their own pace by picking which of the 120 video lessons they want to view. The program also provides progress tracking and much more.

## How Military Families Request The Sponsored \$199 Programs

**1.** Visit <http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/> Locate the "Special Offers" section on the left-hand side of the home page near the bottom. The link is called "Donation: VSG/NFL Players" Follow the prompts to verify your military status and order programs. Note: enter your name exactly as it appears on your military records.

**OR**

**2.** Visit <http://sat.eknowledge.com/military.asp> select the link to the DOD website to confirm the military status through the secure Department of Defense main Database. That website will then forward you to the sponsorship order page. The sponsorship will cover the \$199.99 cost for the program. The families pay only the s/h of \$9.95.

## New Commander for MDDF



*Brig. Gen. (Md.) Courtney B. Wilson*

Brig. Gen. (Md.) Courtney B. Wilson assumed command of the Maryland Defense Force (MDDF) on September 5, 2006. Wilson, who had been serving as the MDDF Chief of Staff, is currently the Executive Director of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum. A longtime member of the MDDF Wilson has held other posts including Special Projects Officer and Deputy Chief of Staff. He also serves as the President of the Greater Baltimore History Alliance and has served on many local, regional and national boards including the Maryland Military Historical Society, Star Spangled Banner Flag House, The President's Council on National Parks and the Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums. Wilson served a tour of duty in Vietnam in 1971 as an infantryman with the army. Wilson assumed command from Brig. Gen. (Md.) Frederic N. Smalkin who stepped down after serving as the MDDF commander since April 2005.

# Marylanders Assist During Repatriation

Another group of weary evacuees arrived in the early evening and were immediately greeted by clapping hands and cheers.

"Flights are coming in and people are pretty distraught," said Sgt. 1st Class John Lavery, a Maryland National Guardsman who volunteered for the mission. "A lot of



*Sgt. Guy Stafford, Maryland Army National Guard member, helps a repatriated citizen make it to a connecting flight.*

these people are carrying everything they have with them," said Lavery, non-commissioned officer in charge of the Maryland Army Guard Soldiers supporting the repatriation operation.

Repatriation flights began arriving at the Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall (BWI) Airport on July 20 with an average of 250 passengers per flight.

The Maryland Guardsmen worked primarily as escorts for the evacuees, helping to smooth the process as well as help the evacuees navigate the airport. A primary service the Soldiers and Airmen provided was ensuring the evacuees made their connecting flights. Ready to lend assistance on the spiritual side were several Maryland National Guard chaplains.

Coordination between state, local and federal agencies was the responsibility of the Maryland Emergency Management Agency. While repatriation operations were led by the Maryland Department of Human Resources (MDDHR).

"There's nowhere else in the world you can get this type of treatment," said Sgt. Dale Clester, referring to the combined assistance made available to the evacuees as they arrive. Sgt. Clester and his wife Pvt. Kelly Clester, both members of the 1729th Forward Support Maintenance Co., located in Havre de Grace, Md., began working on the first day of the operation.

After passing through U.S. Customs, evacuees were greeted by American Red Cross workers distributing food along with hygiene kits. MDDHR workers helped coordinate follow-on travel and medical personnel were on stand-by to lend assistance should returning citizens require it.

The trip from Lebanon to the U.S. could take as long as five days, said Sgt. Clester. And many of the travelers were very weary from remaining awake for most of it, he added.

"People waiting for flights out of Cypress are afraid to go to sleep", said Sgt. Clester, "for fear that when their names are called to board their flight they'll be asleep and miss them."

The repatriation operation is joint civil

and military operation involving MEMA and both the Maryland Air and Army National Guard as well as the Maryland Defense Force.

"It's been a really nice experience working joint Air and Army Guard," said Tech. Sgt. Dena Mioduszewski, a member of the Maryland Air Guard's 175th Services Flight. "It shows you how well the Army and Air can work together."

Mioduszewski had been a part of the mission since day one and had recently been made the Air Guard Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge on the ground at BWI.

"I called my commander and said, 'I've got to be a part of this'," said Mioduszewski.

Mioduszewski said that at one point she overheard an evacuee trying to make a phone call to family in California however the battery in his cell phone had died. Mioduszewski lent the man her cell phone enabling him to speak to his family. "You do what you can," she said.

Operations ended on July 28 after a total of 19 flights and more than 5050 repatriated U.S. citizens returning through BWI Airport. More than 30 Maryland National Guardsmen assisted in the repatriation effort.

Sgt. 1st Class Lavery, a recently returning Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran, made it clear that he was happy to be helping his fellow citizens. "You see the joy of these people meeting their families," he said. "This is a good humanitarian mission."



*U.S. citizens returning from Lebanon receive assistance at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport.*

# Maryland Antietam Monument Rededicated



*Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, adjutant general for Maryland, addresses ceremony attendees at Antietam National Battlefield.*

**A**midst gray clouds and a stiff breeze, members of the Governor's Commission on Maryland Military Monuments and officials of the National Park Service gathered on Saturday, June 3rd at the Antietam National Battlefield to rededicate the Maryland Monument.

The monument honors Maryland soldiers of the Union and Confederate forces during the Battle of Antietam. The battle, which historians say was the bloodiest day in American History and caused approximately 23,000 casualties, was fought on September 17, 1862 near Sharpsburg, Md. The battle thwarted attempts for European recognition of the Confederacy and allowed President Abraham Lincoln to issue his Emancipation Proclamation.

Resembling a small octagonal Greek temple, the monument is topped by a bronze statue of "Peace" in the form of a classical female figure with a sheathed sword and a laurel leaf wreath over the sword. When the monument was unveiled in 1900, the ceremony was attended by 25,000 attendees

including President William McKinley, most of his cabinet, members of Congress, Maryland Governor John Walker Smith and thousands of veterans.

The monument has eight columns representing the eight Maryland commands at the battle, two Confederate and six Union. The columns support a dome on which the statue of Peace stands. Inside are eight plaques representing the battles fought by each of the eight commands. The monument, which is visible from the Antietam National Battlefield Visitor Center, lies north of the center is located across the road from the Dunker's Church, a famous landmark during the battle.

The ceremony involved an invocation from Chaplain John Schildt, National Chaplain of the 29th Division Association and remarks from Superintendent John Howard, of the Antietam National Battlefield, Secretary Mary Kane, of the Maryland Department of State, Secretary George Owings of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, Maj. Gen. Bruce Tuxill, the adjutant general, and Brian Thacker, Medal of Honor recipient. After the remarks, the dignitaries cut a ribbon placed between two of the columns, and this act officially rededicated the monument.

Also participating in the ceremony was the Maryland Army National Guard's 229th Army Band (The Adjutant General's Own), a ceremonial cavalry unit from the Maryland Defense Force and a firing party of the Honor Guard of the Maryland National Guard. The monument required extensive repairs be made to the copper and iron roof after renovations costing more than \$300,000.

The commission is responsible for restoring and preserving the inventory of approximately 400 memorials honoring Maryland's veterans. Since 1989, the commission has sponsored the conservation of 94 Maryland monuments. Secretary Kane chairs the commission and the Governor appoints members of the commission. General Tuxill and Joseph Balkoski, Joint Force Forces Headquarters command historian are members of the commission.

## Freestate Challenge Hosts Invitational

The Maryland Freestate Challenge Academy hosted the Challenge 10th Anniversary Invitational Games at the University of Maryland in College Park recently. The games took place from June 6 through 9, 2006 and teams from more than a dozen states competed in a variety of events.

Opening ceremonies took place at the Reckord Armory. Each state's team marched in and took their assigned seats. Maryland, then introduced their mascot, a Spartan, who in turn brought in the Maryland team.

The assembled group was then entertained by both the Air Force and Navy drill teams. The games were officially opened and the first contests took place in basketball and drill team. In all there were 13

competitions ranging from chess to triathlon.

The highlight of the competition took place at the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C. Each program sent its four most academically adept cadets to participate in a college bowl type event that was sponsored by Congress.

Each team had an opportunity to answer 56 questions in eight categories. The Maryland team came in first and each team member won a gift certificate to Borders Book Store, a variety of souvenirs, and the praise of several congressmen and senators who were present.

On June 9 the closing ceremonies were held. The winning teams received their trophies and then returned to their

home states vowing to win more honors at the next invitational.



*Rebecca Blue, a Freestate Challenge math instructor, motivates the Freestate Challenge volleyball team prior to hitting the court during the invitational.*

# Maryland Guardsman awarded Soldier's Medal

Story by Sgt. Crystal Rothermel, 143rd Transportation Command Public Affairs



*Maj. Gen. James A. Kelley (left) and Lt. Col. William L. Moseley (right) present Staff Sgt. George Brosenne with the Soldier's Medal.*

**K**UWAIT – Maryland Guardsman Staff Sgt. George Brosenne was recognized during a ceremony in Kuwait on June 13 where he received the Soldier's Medal for attempting to save the lives of his comrades after an accident in October 2005 that took the lives of Sgt. Brian Conner, Cpl. Bernard Ceo, and Cpl. Samuel Boswell of the 243rd Engineer Company.

"You stand as a symbol," said Lt. Gen. James Kelley, Third Army deputy commanding general, as he presented Brosenne's Soldier's Medal. "As we salute you, we salute the best in American tradition."

Brosenne, a Lisbon native served as convoy commander on that fatal day. The Iraq bound convoy began typically, he said, but quickly turned chaotic when three vehicles were involved in an accident.

The vehicle Conner, Ceo and Boswell were in caught fire. Debris and shrapnel was flying in all directions, but personal safety was not Brosenne's concern as he rushed to the gun truck and frantically searched for his friends.

"Instincts took over," Brosenne said. "If that was me, and I was the one needing help- I would hope that someone would do the same thing."

Brosenne fought the elements and pulled the driver from the scene where medics began performing immediate first aid. Conner, Ceo and Boswell did not survive but Brosenne's actions set him apart among peers and superiors.

The Soldier's Medal is awarded to servicemembers who perform heroic actions, and most often to those who risk their lives to save another, like Brosenne.

"I have mixed emotions (about the award), I guess," said Brosenne. "I got the medal due to the fact that something went wrong. I don't feel like I deserve this- they (fallen comrades) deserve this more than I do." He says he was only doing his job, but added, that he is also a firm believer that convoy commanders should always put the lives of their Soldiers above their own.

"Today is a tribute to a great man, Soldier and great American hero," said Kelley. "We shall not forget them, you, or what you've done."

## MilDep Mourns the Passing of Brig. Gen. (Md.) Ray Clift

The Maryland Military Department is mourning the passing on September 1 of Brig. Gen. (Md.) Raymond Bertram Clift, Jr. after a long illness. General Clift was the first Facilities Management Officer (FMO) for the Maryland Army National Guard. He served as the FMO from 1972 until his military retirement in 1988. After retiring, Maj. Gen. Warren D. Hodges, then Adjutant General of Maryland, asked Clift to assume the duties of Maryland Military Department, Director of Installations. His duties and responsibilities included maintenance and repair, and construction of all Military Department facilities. He briefly retired again in the late 90's, but was recalled to service by the current Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, as the Special Assistant to the Adjutant General, the position he held until his passing. In this assignment he was responsible for both Federal and State legislative military issues. General Clift served a distinguished military career as a citizen-soldier. He will long be remembered for all of his accomplishments.

He leaves behind his wife Barbara A. Clift; daughter, Karen Ellis and husband Eric; son, Allen Clift; and daughter, Michelle Sadzinski and husband Mark; sister, Patricia Pacak; grandchildren, Rya, Amanda, Michael, Marisa, and Emily. A memorial service was held in his honor at the Cvach Funeral Home in Rosedale on September 5.

# THE LECTERN

*This segment by Chap. (Lt. Col. Md.) Charles H. Nalls, director, Chaplain Services, MDDF*

In the last column, Chap. (Col.) Lee spoke of "three strands of rope" braided together—Maryland Army and Air Guard, and the Maryland Defense Force chaplains and chaplain assistants. These intertwined strands form a unity in the chaplain force of our Military Department that is stronger than any individual line.

Let's continue that theme with three essential values that join to form a whole in the person: integrity, service before self, and excellence. While these values are a part of the MDDF mission statement, they genuinely are three pillars of the well-rounded life, a life dedicated to serving others.

On the question of integrity, Dr. Martin Luther King noted, "The time is always right to do what is right." Doing right at all times and in all places lies at the heart of a life of service whether military or civilian. Bound up in integrity are the core values of courage, honesty, responsibility, accountability, justice, openness, self-respect, and humility. Each of these may come with a cost, but the person of integrity possesses moral courage and does what is right even if that personal cost is high.

Service before self tells us that duty, particularly duty to others takes precedence over our own desires. At the very least this means that we put aside anger, personal agenda, and that we maintain respect for others. As one writer put it, "It is not so much what we get out of life as what we put into it that determines how large our returns of happiness shall be. The triumphant life is to be achieved through service. . . . There is a place where the path of duty suddenly becomes the path of beauty."

Finally, the philosopher Aristotle once said that, "Excellence is not an act, but a habit." To develop that habit, we must work at excellence in all things, no matter how small they seem. Ultimately, this trait relates to a life of service, because true excellence means that a person asks of himself more than others do.

In the chaplain corps of the MDDF, we strive to keep these values central to our work as we assist MDNG members, their families, and the community at large. Even when not activated for emergency state service, our chaplains work to provide religious support to Guard units throughout the

state, ranging from individual counseling, providing of regular unit training assembly religious services, and assisting with special unit needs.

Our chaplains, who serve on a volunteer basis, can be called upon to perform religious ceremonies from births and baptisms, confirmations and marriages, to illness and last rites, and to provide spiritual assistance to the civilian population, first responders and military personnel in time of crisis or disaster. MDDF chaplain missions have ranged from deployment to New Orleans during the response Hurricane Katrina to state active duty in direct support of the recent repatriation of evacuees from Lebanon to Maryland.

The MDDF Chaplain Corps currently is recruiting ordained ministers, priests, rabbis, and imams, as well as chaplain assistants for volunteer service to our State. You can learn more about the MDDF and how to qualify at [www.mddefenseforce.org](http://www.mddefenseforce.org) or contact Chap. (Lt. Col. Md.) Charles H. Nalls, director, Chaplain Services at 202-262-5519 for further information on the many opportunities available in this rewarding ministry.

## NEW CIVIL AIR PATROL COMMANDER

Jerry Weiss of Forest Hill, Md. was named commander of the Maryland Wing of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) at a change of command ceremony held at CAP's 2006 Middle East Region (MER) Conference and Banquet in Richmond, Va.

"He brings energy, enthusiasm, and commitment to excellence to this new position," said Col. Kay Joslin Walling, who was the wing commander until her appointment as MER commander in March. "Lt. Col. Weiss has served the Maryland Wing well as both a squadron and group commander."

Weiss, 57, first joined CAP in 1999.

CAP, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization with more than 57,000 members nationwide. CAP volunteers perform 95 percent of

continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and also perform homeland security, disaster relief and counterdrug missions at the request of federal, state, and local agencies.

There are approximately 1,300 members of CAP in Maryland. Last fiscal year wing members flew 34 search and rescue missions and were credited with 23 finds.

After the change of command, Walling promoted Weiss to the rank of colonel. She was assisted by Weiss' youngest daughter, Cadet Lt. Col. Joanna Weiss.

"The experiences I've gained as a leader in the military, corporate world, and CAP have been invaluable," Weiss said, adding, "I am at a point in my life that I have the time, enthusiasm, and

energy to undertake the serious responsibilities of wing commander."

Weiss served in the U.S. Army from 1968 to 1971 as an enlisted Soldier. He returned to active duty in 1978. He completed Officer Candidate School in 1981 and was commissioned a second lieutenant. He retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1995 after 20 years of active duty.

"It is with a great sense of humility and dedication that I assume command of the Maryland Wing," Col. Weiss said. "I would like to thank those who have offered their best wishes and I can assure all members of the wing that I will give it my best efforts."

# With Honor

By Staff Sgt. Jon Soucy and Spc. Keith Muckler

The sharp staccato sound of rifle fire echoes across a broad rolling field. The silent stillness of the morning has been broken by the crack of several rifles firing as one. Those firing the rifles move confidently, deliberately and with a deep sense of purpose. Their movements are just as sharp and crisp as the sound of the rifles they fired that cracked through the quietness. They move as one, just as the rifles are fired as one. As the final notes from the rifles reverberate through the air, a lone bugler begins to play and the mournful sound of "Taps" filters through the air as a service member is laid to rest.

The Maryland National Guard Honor Guard performs this ritual about two hundred ninety times a month, and three thousand times year; which is expected to increase in the upcoming year by five hundred.

On July 24, 2006 the Honor Guard performed its 20,000th honor detail.

Recognizing this outstanding achievement Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, adjutant general for Maryland, presented the honor guard with a plaque during a small ceremony.

"The Honor Guard performs a unique service in honoring our fallen heroes," said Tuxill. "We should take pride in their association with this department, as much pride as they take in the work that they do."

Maj. Gen. Tuxill also recently approved the establishment of the Maryland National Guard Honor Guard Ribbon on August 4, 2006.

"Much of the success of the program is directly attributed to the support from General Tuxill and the senior staff," said retired Chief Master Sgt. John Herzberger, director of veteran's affairs for the Maryland Military Department.

Though quite busy bestowing military honors at funerals, for many members of the Honor Guard the opportunity to pay final respects to deceased service members is what keeps them busy training for all those funerals. Though, prior to 1998 military honors at service member's funerals wasn't something that always happened.

"In 1998 the Maryland General Assembly and the governor agreed to set up funding," said Herzberger, explaining how the Honor Guard came into being. And being able to perform military hon-

ors for the families of deceased service members is something members of the unit take very seriously.

"There is no greater calling than to provide honors for those that have served, and in some cases, made the greatest sacrifice for this country," said Herzberger, who added the honor guard performs those honors for all service



*Spc. Aaron Edwards, of the Maryland National Guard Honor Guard, folds the flag during a grave side service. Photo by Spc. Keith Muckler*

members regardless of which branch of service they served in.

That sense of calling, as well as passion and respect, is something that seems to drive many who join the Honor Guard.

"I joined the Honor Guard so I could give back to the Soldiers that have come before me," said Spc. Aaron Edwards. "All veterans deserve the chance to be buried with military honors if they choose. None of them should be denied this respect."

Becoming a member of the Honor Guard can be a difficult task. Open to members of both the Maryland Army and Air National Guard, a service member has to first be recommended by his or

her unit. They must then go through a background check, meet height and weight standards as well as other requirements. The Maryland National Guard Honor Guard are authorized 80 positions, they currently have 65 on board; with other members serving on active duty in locations such as, Iraq and Afghanistan.

"They are very picky," said Edwards, of the selection process for those who wish to join the Honor Guard. "You must meet or exceed the standards at all times. There is no below-the-standard with this group. You must be passionate about this job."

Once selected to become an Honor Guard member, the training begins.

"We are trained in all aspects of the ceremony, except bugler," said Edwards, who added that Honor Guard members only get one chance at each funeral and must do it right each time. "On any given day you could be pallbearer, on the firing party, colors team or on flag folding and presentation. You have to be sharp at everything."

There are two types of services the group trains to perform, said Herzberger. First are full honors, which are reserved for Medal of Honor recipients, those who have died while on active duty or retired service members. Second are modified honors, which is for all veterans who have been honorably discharged.

And the training and practicing for those services is a constant thing for members of the Honor Guard. On almost any given day when not at a funeral, the members of the group can be seen honing their skills to keep their movements sharp and crisp. But for some, that continuous training to ensure pinpoint exactness isn't the most difficult part of being in the Honor Guard.

"The hardest part of military funeral honors is the emotion of the families, which can affect you while performing the ceremonies," said Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Dena Ann Mioduszewski. "I have caught myself tearing up. It really can make you feel like you are part of their family."

But that emotional tie can also be one of the most rewarding aspects of being part of the Honor Guard.

"The best part is folding the flag and giving it to the next of kin and looking

*Continued on page 14*

# With Honor

*Continued from page 13*

into their eyes and seeing the response that they give you,” said Mioduszewski. And others agreed.

And that emotion and response is something many families and Honor Guard members carry with them, long after the crack of the rifle and the sound of “Taps” has settled into the still morning air.



*Members of the Honor Guard perform during a funeral. Photo by Spc. Keith Muckler*

## USPFO Civilian Recognized

A Maryland United States Property and Fiscal Office employee was recently recognized by the U.S. Army Transportation Corps. John Yingling, USPFO traffic manager, was named Transportation Corps Civilian of the Year for 2005 during an awards ceremony on July 25 at Ft. Eustis, Va. A 14 year employee of the USPFO, located in Havre de Grace, Yingling got his start as a shipping clerk.

“I kind of worked my way up,” said Yin-

gling. Yingling is responsible for coordinating all commercial passenger and freight transportation for the Maryland National Guard. This includes charter flights, coach bus transportation and equipment line-hauling. Yingling admits that the workload has increased with the Global War on Terrorism however he plans on sticking around.

“I love my job,” he said. “I’ll be doing this for 15 more years.”



*John Yingling*

## State Partnership With Bosnia Strong

In June Maj. Gen Bruce F. Tuxill, adjutant general for Maryland led a contingent of local business leaders to Bosnia and Estonia as part of the National Guard’s State Partnership Program. Maryland has been partnered with Bosnia since 2003 and with Estonia since 1993.

The National Guard is uniquely suited to participate in efforts to build democratic institutions; its cooperative

efforts with other nations maximize the advantages its Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen bring to initiatives to shape the international environment. As a reserve component, the National Guard demonstrates how nations can possess a significant defense capability at a much lower cost than active duty forces—a subject of vital interest to emerging democracies struggling with fiscal constraints as well as issues involving conflict and peace.



*Left to Right: Lt. Gen. Sifet Podzic, commander of military forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ambassador Douglass McElbaney, U.S. Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Nikola Radovanovic, Bosnia and Herzegovina minister of defense, Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill.*

## Family First Campaign Announced by Governor Ehrlich

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. announced a new emergency preparedness campaign on Monday, September 25 that targets families. The Family First campaign was created by Governor Ehrlich to provide practical information to families – and to all Marylanders about preparedness. The

centerpiece of the campaign is an emergency checklist in the form of a refrigerator magnet. In addition to the popular checklist, the Family First program will distribute a guide to family preparedness. A website – [www.family-first.md](http://www.family-first.md) – offers information drawn from state and national sources. The

guide and the checklist are available from the Maryland Emergency Management Agency by contacting Ed McDonough at 410-517-3632 or [emcdonough@mema.state.md.us](mailto:emcdonough@mema.state.md.us)

A copy of the Family First emergency checklist is included on the following page.

# family First



## A checklist for Emergency Preparedness

**BE READY FOR ANY EMERGENCY**  
In an emergency, keep these items in a sturdy, easy-to-carry container like a duffel bag or a plastic container.

- WATER**  
One gallon per person per day for three days, stored in plastic containers
- FOOD**  
Ready to eat canned meat, fruit and vegetables  
Canned soup, milk and juices  
Food for infants and adults with special diets  
High-energy snacks- crackers, trail mix, granola bars, peanut butter  
Comfort foods- cookies, candy, hot chocolate, tea bags, instant coffee  
(Don't forget a non-electric can opener)
- PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES**
- FIRST AID KIT**- including non-prescription drugs like pain relievers
- FLASHLIGHT** and extra batteries
- PORTABLE RADIO** and extra batteries
- CASH** - bills and coins
- FAMILY DOCUMENTS**- driver's licenses, medical and prescription plan i.d.s., Social Security cards, identification for infants and children
- STURDY CLOTHING, RAIN GEAR AND BEDDING**
- SMALL TOOL KIT**
- BATHROOM SUPPLIES** - toilet paper, soap, personal hygiene items
- PETS** - pet food, pet carriers and leashes, proof of rabies shots

**REMEMBER**, you should have a plan that includes where you will meet if there is an emergency, where you will go if you evacuate, and how you will contact each other if you are separated.

**LOCAL RADIO STATIONS** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOSPITAL** \_\_\_\_\_



To My Fellow Marylanders;

In an emergency, you should have enough supplies and be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours. The checklist on the opposite side of this card and the local emergency management numbers supplied will help your family prepare for an emergency.

*Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.*

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.  
Governor of Maryland



In an emergency, call 911  
You can obtain more information about emergency planning from your local emergency office listed below.

County	Phone
Allegany.....	301-777-5908
Anne Arundel.....	410-222-8040
Baltimore.....	410-887-5996
Calvert.....	410-535-1623
Caroline.....	410-479-2622
Carroll.....	410-386-2455
Cecil.....	410-996-5350
Charles.....	301-609-3402
Dorchester.....	410-228-1818
Frederick.....	301-694-1746
Garrett.....	301-334-7619
Harford.....	410-638-4900
Howard.....	410-313-6004
Kent.....	410-778-3758
Montgomery.....	240-777-2300
Prince George's.....	301-583-1899
Queen Anne's.....	410-758-4500
St. Mary's.....	301-475-4200
Somerset.....	410-651-0707
Talbot.....	410-770-8160
Washington.....	240-313-2930
Wicomico.....	410-548-4820
Worcester.....	410-632-1311

Municipal	Phone
Annapolis.....	410-216-9167
Baltimore City.....	410-396-6175
Ocean City.....	410-723-6619

For more information on putting your Family First go to:  
[www.FamilyFirst.md](http://www.FamilyFirst.md)

Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)  
877-MEMA-USA (877-636-2872) • 410-517-3600  
[www.memastate.md.us](http://www.memastate.md.us)

# MDDF Officer Showcased by MNA

A registered nurse who is a captain in the Maryland Defense Force (MDDF) has been selected by the Maryland Nurse's Association (MNA) as one of its 12 showcase nurses for their FACE of Nursing project. Capt. (Md.) Odediah Skolnick of MDDF's 10th Medical Regiment was selected for the honor.

The FACE of Nursing project is the association's effort to celebrate and honor with special recognition nurses who inspire patients and other nurses in the practice of their profession. In addition to the recognition, Skolnick will be honored as one of the nurses who will appear in the MNA's 2007 nursing calendar.

Skolnick is a case manager and home visiting nurse with the Visiting Nurse Association of Maryland with an accomplished background in cardiac critical care. Her professional duties are complimented through her role in the Maryland Military Department's Maryland Defense Force. The MDDF, an all volunteer agency, fields approximately 200 uniformed professionals in medical, legal, clergy and related fields as a force multiplier for the Maryland National Guard. During 2005, Skolnick participated with distinction in two



*Capt. (Md.) Odediah Skolnick*

major initiatives through the Maryland Military Department.

In February 2005, Skolnick lent her expertise as an evaluator in Self Aid and Buddy Care to Maryland Air National Guard airmen during an Operational Readiness Exercise.

Skolnick also called upon her clinical and organizational abilities when she deployed with the MDDF to Jefferson Parish, La. during the Hurricane Katrina relief mission in September 2005.

The MNA will honor Skolnick and the 11 other FACE of Nursing honorees at a luncheon in Linthicum, Md. on October 20.



Fifth Regiment Armory  
Baltimore, MD 21201-2288

Maryland Military Department

## Digest

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**Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.**  
Governor

**Michael S. Steele**  
Lt. Governor

**Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill**  
The Adjutant General

**Rick Roth**  
Editor

## Numbers You Need

Maryland National Guard Family  
Readiness Office  
410-576-6019

Department of Information  
Management Help Desk  
410-702-9600

Maryland National Guard  
Chaplain's Office  
410-576-6124

### Red Cross

Central Maryland Chapter, Baltimore  
1-888-737-4306

Southern Maryland Chapter, La Plata  
301-934-2066

Lower Shore Chapter, Salisbury  
410-749-5331

Frederick County Chapter, Walkersville  
301-662-5131

Maryland Poison Control  
1-800-222-1222

## Websites

Maryland Government Website  
[www.maryland.gov](http://www.maryland.gov)

Maryland Military Department  
Website  
[www.mdmildep.org](http://www.mdmildep.org)

Maryland Emergency  
Management Agency  
[www.mema.state.md.us](http://www.mema.state.md.us)

Maryland State Employee  
Central Payroll Bureau  
[www.compnet.comp.state.md.us/cpb](http://www.compnet.comp.state.md.us/cpb)